--- “Series of 1883” - 25 Cigars - GREEN - 325 x 22 mm. - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- RG-275 DP - recess printed die proof - with “*pointed ends*” - scanned at 50% scale ---

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The catalogue should list the “Series of 1883” green 25 cigar strips as follows: (I have not seen the first item)

RG-275† - 25 cigars, green, Pointed Ends, perf 12, lithographed on horizontal mesh wove
RG-280(L) - 25 cigars, green, Blunt Ends, coarse roulette, lithographed on horizontal mesh wove
RG-281 - 25 cigars, green, Blunt Ends, coarse roulette, recess printed on horizontal mesh wove

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4th BABN Contract (1886 -1892) John McKay records 12,950 lithographed copies of “25 Green Cigars” were delivered. These are the 295 mm. ‘blunt end’ **RG-280(L)**.

5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) John McKay records 33,680 lithographed and 18,970 recess printed copies of “25 Green Cigars” were delivered. These are **RG-280(L)-281**.

John McKay ***does not*** list the printing of a “pointed ends” green twenty-five cigar strip in the “Series of 1883”. The ***black*** “pointed ends” strip (**RG-223**) is listed as lithographed earlier under the **3rd BABN Contract**.

Lee Brandom ***did not*** list a *control numbered* “pointed ends” green 25 cigar strip, and gives a mention to a green plate proof. The catalogue lists the 295 mm. ‘rounded end’ green strip, with 4 mm. controls - see the proper file.

★**RG-275 DP** - 25 cigars, green, a *die proof* on fine white bond with a *horizontal* mesh

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Lee Brandom lists the above as a *plate proof*, however the collection contains a pane of ten strips ***pasted-up*** from individual copies of the above strip on light cardboard to form a sheet (all ten have the small triangle in the upper right margin). Why would anyone cut apart a *plate proof* pane of ten strips, and paste them on thin cardboard to form a *plate proof* pane? These strips must be ***die proofs***, and this pasted-up pane was obviously produced from die proofs as a demonstration of a plate pane.

The green strips were intended for cigars wholly made from Canadian tobacco, for in spite of literature to the contrary, burley tobacco was being produced in Essex County (south-western Ontario) in the ‘pre’ and ‘post’ Civil War years.

Plates from this die were used to lithograph the black, blue and yellow 25 cigar ‘pointed end’ strips of the “Series of 1883”. This ‘green’ die proof *does not* have a corresponding Brandom control numbered strip, and is probably a *trial colour proof*.

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1883 \ Green \ 25 cigars - pointed ends],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 12th 2013 - JBH